

**ANGUS COUNCIL**

**CHILDREN AND LEARNING COMMITTEE - 17 NOVEMBER 2020**

**ANNUAL EDUCATION REPORT 2019 to 2020 and ANNUAL EDUCATION PLAN 2020 to 2021**

**REPORT BY KELLY MCINTOSH, DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING**

**ABSTRACT**

The Standards in Scotland's Schools etc Act 2000, as amended, introduced new planning and reporting duties on Education Authorities.

This report presents Angus Council's Annual Education Report for session 2019 to 2020 and the Annual Education Plan for session 2020 to 2021. This Annual Education Report and Plan summarises progress made with the 2019 to 2020 plan and sets out the new Annual Education Plan for session 2020 to 2021. A copy of the 2020 to 2021 Plan, if approved, will be sent to Scottish Ministers in line with statutory requirements.

**1. RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Children and Learning Committee:

- (i) Reviews the progress summarised in relation to Angus Annual Education Plan 2019 to 2020 ("Angus Annual Education Report", appendix 1, section 1);
- (ii) Approves Angus Council's Annual Education Plan 2020-2021 for publication, requests implementation of the plan and priorities (appendix 1, section 2), and instructs provision of the approved Annual Education Plan as soon as reasonably practicable to Scottish Ministers as required in terms of section 3F(2) of the 2000 Act;
- (iii) Notes that Angus Council's Annual Education Plan outlines improvement activity for the period 1st September 2019 to 31st May 2021;
- (iv) Requests the Director of Education and Lifelong Learning present an evaluation report on progress with Angus Council's Annual Education Plan, in September 2021.

**2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS LOCAL OUTCOMES IMPROVEMENT PLAN/COUNCIL PLAN**

2.1 This report is related to the following local outcomes as stated in the Angus Local Outcomes Improvement Plan 2017-2030 and the Council Plan 2019 to 2024:

- Local Outcome 4 - The best start in life for children
- Local Outcome 5 - More opportunities for people to achieve success
- Local Outcome 6 - Improved physical, mental and emotional health and wellbeing

2.2 Council priorities:

- We want to maximise inclusion and reduce inequalities

**3. BACKGROUND**

3.1 Report 190/17, considered at Children and Learning Committee in June 2016, outlined new requirements for Education Authorities following amendments to the [Standards in Scotland's Schools etc Act 2000](#). There were three main new duties:

- Section 3A of the 2000 Act imposes duties on the Scottish Ministers which are designed to promote a reduction in inequalities of educational outcome experienced by pupils as a result of socio-economic disadvantage or otherwise.

- Section 3D of the 2000 Act imposes a duty on education authorities, in discharging their duty under section 3(2) of the 2000 Act (to endeavour to secure improvement in the quality of school education) to do so with a view to achieving the strategic priorities of the National Improvement Framework.
- Sections 3F and 6 of the 2000 Act impose duties on education authorities in relation to the preparation and publication of an annual plan (to be given to the Scottish Ministers) and the preparation of an annual improvement plan for each school managed by the education authority.

3.2 All improvement activity undertaken by the Education and Lifelong Learning Directorate is aligned with the strategic priorities as outlined in the National Improvement Framework. These four strategic priorities are:

- Improvement in attainment, particularly in literacy and numeracy
- Closing the attainment gap between the most and least disadvantaged children and young people
- Improvement in children and young people's health and wellbeing
- Improvement in employability skills and sustained, positive school leaver destinations for all young people

3.3 The Angus Annual Education Plan must set out for the planning period:

- Steps proposed to reduce inequalities of outcome experienced by pupils as a result of socioeconomic disadvantage or otherwise.
- The ways in which the education authority will seek and have regard to the views of the persons listed below and to provide any advice and support the authority thinks appropriate to those persons in relation to its consideration of decisions of a strategic nature about the carrying out of its school education functions.

In terms of the legislation the following persons are specified:

- (a) Head teachers
- (b) Pupils
- (c) Parents
- (d) Trade unions representing teaching staff
- (e) Voluntary organisations
- (f) Any other persons as the Authority thinks appropriate

- Steps to be taken in pursuance of the four priorities contained within the National Improvement Framework.
- Any educational benefits for pupils that the authority considers will result from taking all of these steps.

#### **4. ANNUAL EDUCATION REPORT 2019 TO 2020**

4.1 The Report of session 2109 to 2020 records the progress of actions set out in the Angus Annual Education Plan 2019 to 2020 ([Report 305/19](#) and [Appendix 1](#) refer).

This review of progress is for the period until 24 March 2020, the date of school closure due to Covid-19.

4.2 The Report presents –

- A summary of improvement activity being progressed through the Tay Improvement collaborative;
- Data on attendance, exclusion and achievement;
- Outcomes of Care Inspectorate and Education Scotland inspections;
- A summary of the use of Pupil Equity Funding;
- Updates on progress within each of the priority areas listed in the 2019 to 2020 Plan.

4.3 The Report also captures the work of the Education and Lifelong Learning Directorate from the point of school closure in March 2020 until August 2020.

## **5. ANNUAL EDUCATION PLAN 2020 TO 2021**

- 5.1 The Plan is for the period until the 31 May 2021 to allow all subsequent plans to align with our local improvement planning process.
- 5.2 The Plan is presented under the themes of 'Angus Cares', 'Angus Learns' and 'Angus Improves' and is designed to respond to the needs of our children, young people, families and staff following the period of school closure and the impact of the changes to our lives due to Covid-19.
- 5.3 The health and wellbeing of all, a focus on the recovery of any 'loss of learning' in reading, the development of our digital learning offer and the quality of support provided to our care experienced children and young people are prioritised.

## **6. PROPOSALS**

- 6.1 A report on progress in relation to the Angus Annual Education Plan and the strategic priorities in relation to the National Improvement Framework, as required by legislative amendment, is set out in appendix 1, section 1. The Plan for session 2019/20, highlights planned educational improvement activity for the period 1st September 2020 to 31st May 2021.
- 6.2 It is proposed that this Plan is considered and approved by Children and Learning Committee and an evaluation report on progress with the Plan is brought before Committee in September 2021.

## **7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

**NOTE:** The background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) which were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report are:

- [Standards in Scotland's Schools Act etc 2000](#)
- [Report 305/19](#) and [Appendix 1](#) – Annual Education Report and Plan

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List of Appendices:

[Appendix 1 -Angus Annual Education Report 2019 to 2020 and Plan 2020 to 2021](#)